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**From:** Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6E06B0D240D84CA59788C6C431758DE2-WAHLSTROM-R]  
**Sent:** 11/26/2019 9:14:52 PM  
**To:** R4NPDES.Kampachi@epa.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Floating Fish Farm in Gulf in South Sarasota

Meghan Wahlstrom | Environmental Engineer | Permitting & Grants Branch | Water Division  
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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:29 AM  
To: Wahlstrom-Ramler, Meghan <Wahlstrom-Ramler.Meghan@epa.gov>  
Subject: Floating Fish Farm in Gulf in South Sarasota

The proposed floating fish farm in the Gulf South of Sarasota should not go forward. The proven negative effects of aquaculture have been seen in many countries including Canada, Norway and states including Washington.

In British Columbia, the provincial government has recently announced it will decommission salmon farming over the next four years. Concerns over the health impacts on wild species, the high capture rate of wild fish including mammals attracted to the food source and lights of cages, the multiple risks of discharging pollutants such as antibiotics and releasing thousands of tonnes of waste into the surrounding waters. The research is abundant and is proven. You are urged to consider carefully all of the ill effects of fish farming on the sustainability of all Gulf coast species.

Do not be fooled into believing a small test project is harmless. Before long a full force aquaculture industry will be in place and you will be back-peddling to try to recover like so many others before you. Of equal importance, it behooves me that the fishing industry thinks consumers want to consume antibiotic raised fish in pens that keep the fish enclosed but allow parasites to get in and which swim in their own waste for up to two years. Risks on human health are rarely mentioned but should also be a primary concern.

Sincerely,

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